

Toxics Cleanup Program

revised September 2013

The Department of Ecology is required to conduct an Underground Storage Tank (UST) Inspection at all registered tank sites for compliance. On-line you can click links in [*blue italics*](#) for more information.

What records will be reviewed on-site? Depending on your type of system, have the following records:

- ☐ Facility Compliance Tag
- ☐ Current Business License with tank endorsements
- ☐ Tank Pollution Liability Insurance or proof of self-insurance
- ☐ Records of Class A/B and Class C [*Operator Training*](#)
- ☐ [*Emergency Signage*](#) visible from dispensers and tanks
- ☐ Tank Release Detection - **Monthly** printout (or log):
 - ☐ [*Automatic Tank Gauge*](#) (ATG) 0.2 gph leak test passing results, or
 - ☐ Interstitial (or annular) sensor normal results (required if installed after 10/2012), or
 - ☐ Statistical Inventory Reconciliation (SIR) vendor results, or
 - ☐ Daily/weekly/monthly sticking records (rare)
- ☐ Testing of sensors (per manufacturer specifications)
- ☐ Pressurized Piping Release Detection
 - ☐ **Annual** test of Automatic Line Leak Detector (ALLD) last two tests
And **one** of the following:
 - ☐ **Annual** line tightness test (last two tests), or
 - ☐ **Monthly** printout (or log) of sensor normal results (required if installed after 10/2012), or
 - ☐ **Monthly** printout of 0.2 gph passing electronic ALLD, or
 - ☐ **Monthly** SIR vendor results
- ☐ Safe Suction Piping with only one check valve at **pump** (no leak detection required)
- ☐ Non-safe Suction Piping with check valve at **tank**; tank higher than pump; use **one** of the following:
 - ☐ **Every 3 years** line tightness test, or
 - ☐ **Monthly** printout (or log) of sump sensor normal results, or
 - ☐ **Monthly** SIR vendor results
- ☐ Steel Tanks with Internal Lining Only (no cathodic protection): Internal Lining Inspection at **10 years** and every **5 years** thereafter
- ☐ **Every 3 years** Cathodic (Corrosion) Protection test (last two tests)
 - ☐ Steel Tanks
 - ☐ Steel Lines
 - ☐ Turbine steel flex connectors in soil
 - ☐ Under dispenser steel flex connectors in soil
- ☐ **Every 60-day** or **monthly** log of Volt/Amp readings for Impressed Current Systems

What equipment needs to be opened? Depending on your type of system, you will **open** the following:

- ☐ Large Manway above Turbines
- ☐ Dispenser Panels
- ☐ Fills and Spill Buckets
- ☐ Overfill Equipment
 - ☐ Automatic Shut-Off Valve, or
 - ☐ Ball-Float Device (top fitting opened with tool), or
 - ☐ Exterior Alarm

Should I hire my service provider to open the equipment? Some owners hire their tank service provider to open all the equipment during the inspection, since it is difficult and dangerous to open the large metal manways above the turbines. Appropriate tools must be used to safely open and lift the heavy manways. Ecology inspectors will not open the equipment. Be sure you have the keys to open the dispenser panels and fill ports. If you do not have a tank service provider present, for your safety, use your vehicle and orange cones to block off the tank area while opening these lids, as drivers cannot see you when you are kneeling on the ground to open up the lids. Rare sites may require a confined space entry permit to access the tank tops.

How many years of records will be checked? The regulation requires owners to keep release detection records for 5 years. Please have at least 12 months of records available for a detailed review on-site. The inspector will let you know if additional years of records will be checked during this inspection.

How often will each site be inspected? Each site must be inspected at least every three years.

How long is the inspection? On average one to two hours. They will be scheduled one or two weeks prior. The inspection needs your complete attention, so have someone else working as cashier.

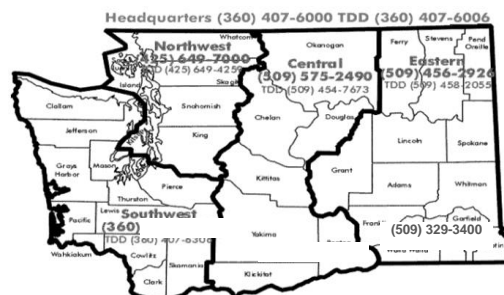
What if violations are found? The inspector may issue a Notice of Non-Compliance, which outlines actions you need to take with deadlines to achieve compliance. Significant violations may result in a Field Penalty or a Notice of Delivery Prohibition (Red Tag) being issued on-site. If compliance is not achieved or there are severe violations, Ecology may pursue formal enforcement action.

What if my tank is temporarily closed? Corrosion protection must be operational and testing conducted, if applicable, during temporary closure. If your tank has less than an inch of product, no release detection is necessary, but you will need to stick the tank during the inspection to verify. If your tank has product in it, you need to be conducting release detection. All other records will be reviewed and equipment checked.

How does the inspection benefit me? Failure to properly operate and maintain your UST system equipment may result in a significant loss in your property investment and contaminate the environment. Correct operation and maintenance help ensure that leaks are detected early or even prevented, protecting your investment and potentially saving you thousands of dollars in cleanup costs.

More questions? Please contact your local regional office and ask to speak with an UST inspector.

Central Region	(509) 575-2490
Eastern Region	(509) 329-3400
Northwest Region	(425) 649-7000
Southwest Region	(360) 407-6300
Headquarters	(360) 407-7270
(Federal Facilities in Western WA)	



To view this form online follow this link: <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/summarypages/1009047.html>

Special accommodations: To ask about the availability of this document in a version for the visually impaired, call the Toxics Cleanup Program at (360) 407-7170. Persons with hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability, call 877-833-6341.